

AGENDA: May 13, 2003

9.1

CATEGORY: Items Initiated by Council

DEPT.: City Council

TITLE: Referral to the Parks and Recreation Commission to Survey the Availability and Allocation of Playing Fields

RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) to analyze the supply and demand of playing fields in the City of Mountain View and have the PRC report back to the Council on areas of current and expected need.

FISCAL IMPACT

There will not be a fiscal impact related to this recommendation, although there will be an investment of staff time to support the assessment.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

At the March 25, 2003 City Council meeting, 10 community members, mostly affiliated with Mountain View Little League, spoke about the allocation of baseball playing fields in Mountain View. During their comments, the speakers stressed their opinion that there were inadequate facilities for the teams who wished to hold baseball games and practices in the City of Mountain View. After the public comments, three Councilmembers offered comments on the subject, proposing that the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) or Community Services Department—Recreation Division explore this issue further to determine whether steps needed to be taken to ensure that the availability of playing fields matched the demand resulting from the expansion of youth sports programs in Mountain View.

I would like to recommend that the Council refer to the PRC this analysis of sports field availability. The analysis would probably include a survey of local sports organizations, posting requests for input on existing sports fields and identifying which fields have required repair due to heavy use. The PRC would then report back to the Council on areas of need for current and future sports field needs.

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CONCLUSION

The City of Mountain View prides itself in its wide variety, scope and availability of playing fields and recreation facilities. The City Council needs to know the current adequacy of playing fields and their allocation for use.

I am recommending that the PRC survey the availability and allocation of playing fields in Mountain View and provide a summary of their findings to Council.

PUBLIC NOTICING—Agenda posting.

Prepared by:

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607-05-13-03M-E-1^